



AGING AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION (AL TSA)

## Paid Feeding Assistant Program Review

For use during Recertification Surveys of Nursing Homes

FACILITY NAME

SURVEYOR'S NAME

DATE

A facility may use a paid feeding assistant, if (i) the feeding assistant has successfully completed a State-approved training course that meets the requirements of §483.160 before feeding residents; and (ii) The use of feeding assistants is consistent with State law. Please refer to RCS Management Bulletin R13-035 Paid Feeding Assistant (Dietary Aide) Program (NH) for more information on approved curriculum.

### Paid Feeding Assistant Sample

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Curriculum and Records

Minimum training course contents. A State-approved training course for paid feeding assistants must include, at a minimum, 8 hours of training in the following: (1) Feeding techniques; (2) Assistance with feeding and hydration; (3) Communication and interpersonal skills; (4) Appropriate responses to resident behavior; (5) Safety and emergency procedures, including the Heimlich maneuver; (6) Infection control; (7) Resident rights; and (8) Recognizing changes in residents that are inconsistent with their normal behavior and the importance of reporting those changes to the supervisory nurse.

Maintenance of records. A facility must maintain a record of all individuals, used by the facility as feeding assistants, who have successfully completed the training course for paid feeding assistants.

- **Is the facility using a state approved curriculum meeting the above requirements?**  Yes  No
- **Are records kept appropriately by the facility?**  Yes  No

### Supervision

A feeding assistant must work under the supervision of a registered nurse (RN) or licensed practical nurse (LPN). Constant visual contact is not required but in an emergency, a feeding assistant must be aware of and know how to access the supervisory nurse immediately. The nurse must be located close enough to the resident that he or she can promptly respond.

- **Is the paid feeding assistant working under the supervision of a RN or LPN?**  Yes  No
- **Is the supervisory nurse near enough to promptly respond to an emergency?**  Yes  No
- **Does the feeding assistant know how to call the nurse in an emergency?**  Yes  No

### Residents

A facility must ensure that a paid feeding assistant provides dining assistance only for residents who have no complicated feeding problems. Complicated feeding problems include, but are not limited to, difficulty swallowing, recurrent lung aspirations, and tube or parenteral/IV feedings. The facility must base resident selection on the charge nurse's assessment and the resident's latest assessment and plan of care.

- **Were the residents selected to receive help from feeding assistants assessed and determined not to have complicated feeding problems?**  Yes  No